

Arkansas State Archives

Arkansas Digital Archives

John Hugh Reynolds materials, 1855-1923

Archival Collections

Franklin County Records, 1906

T. A. Pettigrew

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalheritage.arkansas.gov/reynolds-john>



Part of the [Cultural History Commons](#), [Public History Commons](#), and the [United States History Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Franklin County Records, 1906, John Hugh Reynolds papers, MS.000165

Use and reproduction of images held by the Arkansas State Archives without prior written permission is prohibited. For information on reproducing images held by the Arkansas State Archives, please call 501-682-6900 or email at state.archives@arkansas.gov.

COUNTY RECORDS.

- a. Outline history of county, including statement of what counties it has formed a part of, where records for such early periods are, dates.

Ans. Franklin County was formed, December, 19th, 1837, from a part of Crawford County. The first county site of Franklin county was called Whitsontown and was located on the east bank of Big Mulberry creek, about five miles north east of the town of Mulberry. The county site was changed to Ozark in the year, 1839, and has since remained at Ozark. In 1895, the General Assembly established two districts for holding courts, etc; the Ozark District, embracing that part of the county north of the Arkansas River and a part of the county south of the river, and the Charleston District, embracing a part of the county south of the river. Ozark remains the county site for the Ozark District and Charleston was made the county site for the Charleston District. IN 1905, a court-house costing \$60,000.00 was erected at Ozark. It is one of the most beautiful and commodious in the state. The court house at Charleston is built of native stone and is a monument to liberality of the citizens of Charleston.

- b. Period for which records are complete.

Records of the county court, probate court and circuit are complete from date of the first courts, in 1837. The deed and mortgage records are incomplete. The court house was burned in 1863 and the clerk G.H. Ross preserved all except the deed records from the fire. Deed records are complete since 1863. What records are missing? Date; if destroyed by fire or destroyed by about 1866. Destroyed by fire. Records Charleston Dist. complete from 1841 war, state the facts.

The first company of confederates was commanded by Capt. J.J. Walker and was mustered in at Ft. Smith, Ark., joining Col. DeRosa Carroll's 1st regiment. This county was the theater of numerous conflicts between small bodies of of the contending forces during the war. The event that created the greatest excitement and consternation was the murder of Col. DeRosa Carroll and Mr. Ed. Richardson, Jan, 15th, 1863 by Capt. Hart and Lieutenant Hays and their company of Federals. Capt. Hart having secured the names of a number of the prominent Confederates in this community, at break of day suddenly appeared with about forty mounted men, armed with carbines at the front gate of E.M. Richardson's house. They called Mr. Richardson to the front porch and shot him to death and rapidly rode to Judge Thomas Aldridge's and drew their guns on him, and finally told him that on account of the good name that every one gave him they would spare him and rapidly rode thence to Col. Carroll's and called him out into the street. A courier was sent at once by the citizens to Ft. Smith with the news, and Co's Monroe and Rieffat once began pursuit and captured Hart, Hays and all their followers except one man. Hart and Hays were hung at Ft. Smith, Ark., and are buried in the National Cemetery there.

State of Preservation.
Good.

- c. Where kept; in fire proof vaults?

In fire proof vaults. in both districts

- f. Blank filled out by

T.A. Pettigrew.